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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/392,841	09/09/1999	SCOTT J. BROUSSARD	AT9-99-319	1862

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EXAMINER

QURESHI, SHABANA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2155

DATE MAILED: 04/25/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/392,841	Applicant(s) BROUSSARD, SCOTT J. <i>WJ</i>	
Examiner Shabana Qureshi	Art Unit 2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 September 1999.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.
- 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 - 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Trueblood (U.S. 5,748,499) in view of Wong et al. (US 6,216,152).

As per claim 1+14, Trueblood teaches a method for a distributed audio server (column 2, lines 43-49), the method comprising the computer implemented steps of: generating audio data and graphic data (abstract); sending the graphic data to a display server on a client machine specified by a display environment variable (abstract); and sending the audio data to an audio server on the client machine specified by an audio environment variable or by an audio command line parameter (abstract). Trueblood fails to teach that the application is platform independent. Wong et al. teach a media plug-in application that is platform independent (abstract; column 5, lines 30-51). It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ Wong's teachings within the system of Trueblood because using a platform independent application would allow it to run on various types of machines.

As per claims 2 and 15, Trueblood fails to teach that the application is implemented in the Java programming language. Wong et al. teaches that the platform-independent application and the platform-independent audio server are implemented in the Java programming language

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(column 5, lines 40-45). It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ Wong's teachings within the system of Trueblood because using a Java is a platform independent language that would allow the application to run on various types of machines.

As per claims 3 and 16, Trueblood teaches that the display server of claims 1 and 14 is an X Windows display server (column 2, lines 5-15).

As per claims 4 and 9, Trueblood teaches a method for a distributed audio server (column 2, lines 43-49), the method comprising the computer implemented steps of generating audio data (abstract). Trueblood fails to teach that the audio server is implemented as a platform-independent application. Wong et al. teach a media plug-in application that is platform independent (abstract; column 5, lines 30-51). It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ Wong's teachings within the system of Trueblood because using a platform independent application would allow it to run on various types of machines.

The method of determining whether an audio environment variable or an audio command line parameter is defined and if an audio environment variable or an audio command line is defined, sending the audio data to a platform-independent audio server on a client machine specified by the audio environment variable or by the audio command line parameter is inherent to Trueblood's invention (column 4, lines 55-67), the method is more further disclosed by Wong et al. (column 7, lines 1-37). Because Wong et al. refer to the method being applied to media, the method inherently includes audio data and graphic data. This provides the basis on which claims 5 and 10 are rejected.

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As per claims 6 and 11, Wong et al. further teaches that the platform-independent application and the platform-independent audio server of claims 4 and 9 are implemented in the Java programming language (column 5, lines 40-45).

As per claims 7 and 12, Trueblood teaches that the display server of claims 5 and 10 is an X Windows display server (column 2, lines 5-15).

As per claims 8 and 13, Trueblood teaches that the graphic data and the audio data of claims 4 and 9 are synchronized (abstract).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shabana Qureshi whose telephone number is (703) 308-6118. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (703) 305-9648. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

SQ
April 22, 2002


AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100